United Nations A/62/193

General Assembly

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17 August 2007

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Sixty-second session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations

Letter dated 13 August 2007 from the representatives of Belize, Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Honduras, Malawi, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Swaziland and Tuvalu to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Upon instruction from our respective Governments, we have the honour to request, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of a supplementary item entitled "Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations". Pursuant to rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, we attach an explanatory memorandum (annex I) and a draft resolution (annex II).

(*Signed*) Mrs. Janine Elizabeth **Coye-Felson**
Chargé d'affaires
Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Michel **Kafando**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Tamsir **Jallow**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Gambia to the United Nations

07-48572 (E) 270807

(*Signed*) Ambassador Iván **Romero-Martínez**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Steve Dick Tennyson **Matenje**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ms. Rina **Tareo**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Marlene **Moses**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Nauru to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Stuart **Beck**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Palau to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Mr. Carlisle **Richardson**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Margaret Hughes **Ferrari**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Mr. Domingos Augusto **Ferreira**
Chargé d'affaires
Permanent Mission of Sao Tome and Principe to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Collin **Beck**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Chief Senzangakhona Phesheya **Dlamini**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Swaziland to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ambassador Afelee F. **Pita**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Tuvalu to the United Nations

Annex I

Explanatory memorandum

On 19 July 2007 the Republic of China (Taiwan) submitted an application for membership to the United Nations, by formal instrument pursuant to rule 58 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council. The application reads:

"H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations

"Your Excellency,

"In accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations, and in compliance with rule 58 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and rule 134 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I have the honour, on behalf of Taiwan's 23 million people and in my capacity as President, to request the admission of Taiwan as a member of the United Nations.

"The international community of today chooses to disregard the efforts of Taiwan's 23 million people in their pursuit of dignity and peace. It would rather ask a country that advocates the universal values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and peace to submissively remain silent when its identity is denied and security threatened. Whereas globalization draws nations and peoples around the world closer under shared interests and concerns, the United Nations has long excluded Taiwan from participation, erecting a wall against it and placing it in political apartheid. Such unfair treatment towards Taiwan is incomprehensible and unbearable.

"The people living on the beautiful land of Taiwan desire their nation to become a member of the international community and make greater contributions to world peace and prosperity. I, as President, have been given a mandate by the people of Taiwan, and therefore have the responsibility to see realized their aspirations. Participation in the United Nations is a fundamental right of the people of Taiwan. The absence of Taiwan in the United Nations creates a gap in the global network for cooperation, goes against the ideals and notion of justice upheld by the United Nations, and moreover is ironic in light of the UN's principle of universality.

"As the popularly elected President of Taiwan, it is my duty to express to the world the earnest will of the 23 million people of Taiwan to join the United Nations. I hereby formally submit Taiwan's application for membership and request that it be placed before the Security Council and the General Assembly for consideration.

"For this purpose, the following declaration is made in accordance with rule 58 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and rule 134 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly:

Declaration

"In connection with the application of Taiwan for membership in the United Nations, I have the honour, on behalf of Taiwan's 23 million people, to

declare that Taiwan accepts the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and solemnly undertakes to fulfil them.

"(*Signed*) Chen **Shui-bian**
President
Taiwan"

However, the Secretary-General returned Taiwan's application on 20 July 2007 without immediately placing the application before the representatives on the Security Council, as required by rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

We respectfully stress that the Secretary-General's response goes beyond his prerogatives according to the sections of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules aforementioned. The Secretary-General's unilateral determination that the United Nations considers "Taiwan for all intents and purposes to be an integral part of the People's Republic of China" was a usurpation of the exclusive right and obligation of the Security Council to make such determination pursuant to rule 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, which states:

"The Security Council shall decide whether in its judgment the applicant is a peace-loving State ..."

While we have the utmost regard and highest respect for the Secretary-General, we reiterate that only the Security Council can make this critical determination under the Charter and the provisional rules of procedure, and accordingly on 2 August 2007, we sent a letter requesting an immediate action directly to the President of the Security Council for the month of August 2007. On the same day, we also addressed a letter to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, expressing our disagreement about his handling of Taiwan's application for United Nations membership.

For the following reasons, the Governments which we have the honour to represent recognize that Taiwan is a free and peace-loving sovereign State, and its democratically elected Government is the sole legitimate Government that can represent the interests and wishes of the 23 million people of Taiwan in the United Nations.

1. Taiwan is entitled to United Nations membership and a constructive member of the international community

With a population of 23 million, making it the 47th largest population in the world, and a territory consisting of the islands of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, Taiwan enjoys an efficient Government and solid institutions that have proven their capacity to conduct friendly and constructive international relations with many States throughout the world. For example, Taiwan maintains full diplomatic ties with 23 Member States and one observer to the United Nations. Moreover, Taiwan has established more than 110 embassies, consulates general, representative offices or offices around the world, fully demonstrating that it is indeed a sovereign country. Furthermore, through its full membership, Taiwan plays an active role in several international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, the Asian Development Bank and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

2. Taiwan has never been a local government or province of the People's Republic of China

Ever since the establishment of the People's Republic of China on 1 October 1949, the two sides of the Taiwan Strait have been governed separately, with neither side exercising any control or jurisdiction over the other. The fact that international visitors to Taiwan can only apply for visas at the Taiwanese representative institutions instead of the People's Republic of China diplomatic missions is one obvious example.

3. General Assembly resolution 2758 did not resolve the issue of representation of the 23 million people of Taiwan in the United Nations

From 1949 to 1971, the question of the representation of China in the United Nations had been continuously disputed. The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted resolution 2758 (XXVI) on 25 October 1971, which admitted the People's Republic of China to the United Nations. This resolution, however, did not address the issue of the representation and participation of the 23 million people of Taiwan in the United Nations. Unfortunately, General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) has subsequently been misinterpreted to justify Taiwan's exclusion from the United Nations system. With a view to addressing its distortion, the pivotal statement of the aforesaid resolution reads as follows:

> *Decides* to restore all its rights to the People's Republic of China and to recognize the representatives of its Government as the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations, and to expel forthwith the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek from the place which they unlawfully occupy at the United Nations and in all the organizations related to it.

It should be especially noted that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) addressed only the issue of the representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and all related organizations. The resolution did not in any way determine that Taiwan is a part of the People's Republic of China (China), nor did it confer on the People's Republic of China the right to represent Taiwan or the people of Taiwan in the United Nations and its related organizations. Since Taiwan transformed into a full-fledged modern democracy after a series of political reforms, it no longer intends to compete with the People's Republic of China for the so-called "representation of China". This fact further illustrates that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) fails to reflect the objective reality across the Taiwan Strait. It also does not reflect the scope of democracy developed by the people of Taiwan. The United Nations should consider the regrettable fact that this resolution does not safeguard the legal rights of the 23 million people of Taiwan to participate in the United Nations and find a solution.

Annex II

Draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the membership application by the Taiwan Government, which, on behalf of its 23 million people, has accepted the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and is able and willing to carry out these obligations,

Mindful of rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, which requires the Secretary-General to immediately place membership application before the representatives on the Security Council,

Considering with concern that the Secretary-General's unilateral determination that Taiwan is not a "State" was a usurpation of the exclusive right and obligation of the Security Council to make that determination pursuant to rule 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council,

Acknowledging that the democratically elected Government in Taiwan is the sole legitimate Government that can represent Taiwan and its 23 million people in the United Nations and other international organizations,

Noting the fact that, since its establishment in 1949, the People's Republic of China has never exercised any control or jurisdiction over Taiwan,

Recalling that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) addressed only the issue of the representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and all related organizations, did not determine that Taiwan is a part of the People's Republic of China (China), and did not confer on the People's Republic of China the right to represent Taiwan or the people of Taiwan in the United Nations and all related organizations,

Decides to urge the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations.

United Nations A/62/193/Add.1

General Assembly

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20 August 2007

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Sixty-second session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations

Addendum

Letter dated 8 August 2007 from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration of Kiribati addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Government of Kiribati, I have the honour to join other Member States of the United Nations (see A/62/193) to request, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of a supplementary item entitled "Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations". Pursuant to rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I attach an explanatory memorandum (see A/62/193, annex I) and a draft resolution (see A/62/193, annex II).

(*Signed*) Elliot **Ali**
Permanent Secretary
Foreign Affairs and Immigration

07-48684 (E) 270807

United Nations A/62/193/Add.2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 August 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations

Addendum

Letter dated 22 August 2007 from the Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Government of El Salvador, I have the honour to join other Member States of the United Nations (see A/62/193) to request, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of a supplementary item entitled "Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations".

Pursuant to rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I attach an explanatory memorandum (see A/62/193, annex I) and a draft resolution (see A/62/193, annex II).

(*Signed*) Carmen María **Gallardo Hernández**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-48790 (E) 270807

United Nations A/62/193/Add.3

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 September 2007
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-second session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations

Addendum

Letter dated 4 September 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the position of the Republic of Paraguay on the request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly entitled "Urging the Security Council to process Taiwan's membership application pursuant to rules 59 and 60 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations" submitted by a number of States Members of the Organization.

In keeping with the principle of universality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and the attributes of statehood, as well as other essential circumstances, Paraguay believes that the international community cannot avoid consideration of the aforementioned proposal, which reflects the aspirations of the 23 million people of Taiwan, just as it would do for any other State that met the requirements established in the Charter of the United Nations. Consistent with this policy, Paraguay supported the admission of both the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the World Trade Organization.

In that regard, my Government wishes to request, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of the above-mentioned supplementary item. I would like to request that the present letter should be circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Juan A. **Buffa**
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-50850 (E) 180907 180907

United Nations A/62/194

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 August 2007
English
Original: Russian

Sixty-second session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Observer status for the Eurasian Development Bank in the General Assembly

Letter dated 2 August 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith a joint letter from the delegations of the States members of the Eurasian Economic Community addressed to you.

(*Signed*) Byrganym **Aitimova**

07-48868 (E) 290807 310807

Annex to the letter dated 2 August 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Letter dated 2 August 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, we have the honour to request the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Observer status for the Eurasian Development Bank in the General Assembly".

The Eurasian Development Bank is an international intergovernmental organization that promotes socio-economic development and integration processes in the Eurasian area. The Bank was established through an agreement between the Governments of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan and is open for additional States to join as members.

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum (annex I) and a draft resolution (annex II) are attached to this letter.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) S. A. **Rachkov**
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations

(*Signed*) B. S. **Aitimova**
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) N. J. **Jeenbaev**
Permanent Representative
of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations

(*Signed*) V. I. **Churkin**
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

(*Signed*) S. M. **Aslov**
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) A. V. **Vohidov**
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United Nations

Annex I

[Original: Russian]

Explanatory memorandum

1. The Eurasian Development Bank (EDB) is an international institution for promoting development established by an Agreement between the Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation of 12 January 2006. The Bank began its work on 27 June 2006.

EDB is an international organization and a subject of international law; it has international legal capacity and can, in particular, conclude international agreements within the purview of its competence.

Under the Agreement mentioned above, the Bank is guided in its activities by the generally recognized principles and norms of international law applicable under international agreements and also adheres to the generally recognized principles of banking.

The Bank and its bodies are prohibited by its charter from participating in political activity.

Other States and international organizations may accede to the Agreement on the establishment of EDB.

2. The Bank's mission is to promote the development of the market economy, economic growth and the expansion of trade and economic ties through investment activities, including the financing of large-scale investment projects, in the Eurasian area. The Bank facilitates the strengthening of international financial and economic cooperation, by participating in the work of other international financial and banking organizations and associations.

In the future, EDB is expected to become a consolidating element in the financial infrastructure of the single economic space and a partner of member countries in expanding integration processes and equalizing the levels of socio-economic development of the member States of the Eurasian Economic Community.

3. In order to achieve its objectives, the Bank carries out the following basic functions:

- It engages in investment activities by financing projects and programmes, providing guarantees and contributing to the registered capital of organizations, using its own capital and funds obtained on international and national financial markets as well as other available resources for this purpose;
- It advises the members of the Bank on questions of economic development, the effective use of resources, and the expansion of trade and economic ties and conducts information and analysis activities in the field of State and international finance;
- It cooperates with international organizations, States, national institutions and the economic entities of the member States of the Bank and other countries interested in financing economic development.

EDB investment activities aim to modernize the energy, transport, communication and agro-industrial infrastructure, achieve structural improvements in the economies of member States and increase the output of high-technology products with high added value in non-commodity sectors.

4. The Bank's registered capital consists of US$ 1.5 billion. The Bank is located in the city of Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan.

It is expected that, by the end of 2009, the value of the Bank's investment project portfolio will exceed $3.5 billion and that of its assets will reach $5.5 billion.

Accordingly, the Bank constitutes the largest integration project in our region in the financial and economic field.

5. We believe that powerful international institutions like the Eurasian Development Bank provide tangible assistance to socio-economic development and give further impetus to the processes of regional economic integration.

Through its activities, the Bank is helping the countries in our region to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and is promoting their optimal inclusion in the world economy as full-fledged and advantageous partners.

Thus, the activities of EDB as an international institution for promoting development are consonant with the purposes and principles of the United Nations in the socio-economic field. The Bank is one of the key regional partners of the United Nations system in our region.

We are convinced that granting the Bank observer status in the General Assembly would help establish a firm basis for regular and well-organized cooperation between EDB and the United Nations in order to carry out the common and related tasks facing them.

Annex II

[Original: Russian]

Draft resolution submitted by Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

Observer status for the Eurasian Development Bank in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Noting the aspiration of the Eurasian Development Bank to develop its cooperation with the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to invite the Eurasian Development Bank to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

United Nations A/62/195

General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 September 2007
English
Original: Russian

Sixty-second session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-second session

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

Letter dated 9 August 2007 from the representatives of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, we have the honour to request the inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum (annex I) and a draft resolution (annex II) are attached to this letter.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) S. A. **Rachkov**
Acting Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) B. S. **Aitimova**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) N. J. **Jeenbaev**
Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic
to the United Nations

07-49886 (E) 120907 120907

(*Signed*) V. I. **Churkin**
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) S. M. **Aslov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) A. V. **Vohidov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan
to the United Nations

Annex I

[Original: Russian]

Explanatory memorandum

The Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community (EURASEC) was signed on 10 October 2000 by the Presidents of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan. The Republic of Uzbekistan joined the Community in 2006 at the same time as the Organization of Central Asian Cooperation became part of EURASEC.

The Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine have the status of observer States in EURASEC.

The Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community affirms the commitment of the member States of the Community to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the generally recognized principles and norms of international law.

The Community's objectives are to:

- guarantee the free trade regime and establish a single customs tariff and a single system of non-tariff regulation measures,
- establish common regulations for trade in goods and services and their access to domestic markets,
- introduce a unified currency-regulation and currency-control procedure,
- draw up and implement joint programmes for socio-economic development,
- create equal conditions for industrial and entrepreneurial activities,
- form a common transport-services market and a single transport system,
- form a common energy market,
- create equal conditions for the access of foreign investments to the markets of member States,
- granting citizens of the States of the Community equal rights to receive an education and medical assistance in its territory,
- align closer and harmonize national legislation and also ensure cooperation among the legal systems of EURASEC States in order to establish a common legal space.

The Inter-State Council, which is composed of the heads of State and Government of the Community countries, is the highest executive body of EURASEC.

The Integration Committee is the Community's standing administrative body. It is made up of the deputy heads of Government of the EURASEC countries.

The Community Secretariat, located in Moscow (the Russian Federation) and Almaty (Kazakhstan), has the tasks of organizing and providing the information and

technical support for the work of the Inter-State Council and the Integration Committee.

The Secretariat is headed by the EURASEC Secretary-General, who is appointed by the Inter-State Council. Grigory Alekseevich Rapota has occupied this post since October 2001.

The Commission of Permanent Representatives, who are appointed by the EURASEC heads of State, carries out the Community's work during the intervals between meetings of the Integration Committee and ensures cooperation between the Community and the corresponding agencies, departments and organizations of the member countries.

The EURASEC Inter-Parliamentary Assembly is made up of parliamentarians delegated by the parliaments of Community countries. It considers the questions of harmonizing (aligning, unifying) national legislation and bringing it into accordance with agreements concluded within the framework of EURASEC in order to achieve the Community's objectives.

The Community Court ensures the uniform implementation by the parties to the Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community and the other agreements in force within the framework of the Community as well as decisions taken by its bodies and also considers economic disputes between EURASEC member States.

The free trade regime is in operation in the territory of EURASEC without exception or restriction.

At a meeting held in 2006 in Sochi, the Community heads of State adopted a decision on the formation of a customs union composed of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation. Other EURASEC countries will join the customs union when they are ready to do so. The formation of an economic and currency union is a long-term objective.

A visa-free travel regime is in operation: citizens of EURASEC member States, in accordance with an intergovernmental agreement, have the right, regardless of their place of permanent residence, to enter, leave, pass through in transit, travel within or stay in the territory of EURASEC States without a visa.

The near-term priority areas in EURASEC activities also include:

- Transport: the establishment of a single transport space, solving the problem of single rates, increasing the flow of goods, simplifying customs procedures, completion of internal State procedures under agreements signed and the creation of transnational transport and shipping firms;
- Energy: the joint exploitation of hydro-energy complexes in Central Asia and solving the problem of electrical energy supply and water use, achieving a single energy balance, construction of hydroelectric power stations (the question of building hydroelectric power stations in Kyrgyzia and Tajikistan is currently under consideration in practical terms);
- Labour migration: the social protection of migrants, the establishment of an effective system for regulating and controlling the migration of labour resources, combating the criminality that accompanies migration and solving problems related to the payment of taxes by migrants and employers;

- Agro-industrial complex: coordinating the agricultural policy of the EURASEC States, forming a single foodstuffs market of the Community countries, reducing expenditures on the transport, storage, and sale of agricultural products, and establishing new market institutions in this area (insurance, banking, leasing, stock market and other institutions).

EURASEC has had observer status in the United Nations General Assembly since 2003.

The Community cooperates closely with the United Nations system in most of the basic areas of its activities. Its main partners are the European Economic Commission (EEC) of the United Nations, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries is one of the most important areas of the Community's cooperation with the United Nations.

The prospects for joint work with the United Nations system in the environmental, humanitarian and migration fields also appear to hold much promise.

A memorandum of understanding between EURASEC and UNDP was signed in September 2006 in order to strengthen the institutional framework for cooperation between the Community and United Nations structures. An agreement on cooperation between the EURASEC Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and the United Nations European Economic Commission was concluded on 25 January 2007.

In this way, favourable initial conditions for mutually advantageous cooperation between the United Nations and EURASEC have been created. Nevertheless, it is obvious that, in order to strengthen the practical component of this cooperation, ensure its synergistic effect enabling both organizations to attain common objectives in the socio-economic field, particularly the timely achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed objectives, there is a need to place relations between the Community and the United Nations on a more systematic basis. This is precisely the purpose of the General Assembly resolution, the draft of which has also been attached.

Annex II

[Original: Russian]

Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/84 of 9 December 2003, in which it granted the Eurasian Economic Community (EURASEC) observer status,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural and humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the fact that the membership of EURASEC includes countries with economies in transition, and recalling in this regard its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited the United Nations system to enhance dialogue with and increase support to the regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and whose efforts include assisting their members to fully integrate into the world economy,

Noting with satisfaction that the Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community reaffirms the commitment of the member States of the Community to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and also to the generally accepted principles and norms of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and EURASEC contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the activities of EURASEC aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in various fields, such as trade and economic development, the establishment of a customs union, energy, transport, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finance, communications, education, health care and pharmaceuticals, environmental protection and natural disaster risk reduction, or in any other related area;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and EURASEC, and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to conduct to this end regular consultations with the Secretary-General of EURASEC, using for this purpose the relevant inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, and also the Bretton Woods institutions, to cooperate with EURASEC for the purpose of joint implementation of programmes to achieve their goals, and in this regard recommends that their leaders enter into consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of EURASEC;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community".